

The Editor regrets that due to lack of support for the competition for a new-look heading for Woroni the old one has had to be retained.

WORONI

x x X x

x x o

Which one of you guys is the boss?

1961/B

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE A.N.U. STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

11th April, 1961

MEET THE WARDEN

Mr. Packard Interviewed

A bespectacled six-footer with a wide grin is becoming well known to the residents of the Hall. He is Mr. Packard, the first warden. It is hoped to introduce him to all readers.

Mr. Packard's answers to an interviewer will be reported at length, as his co-operation during a two-hour interview proved both rewarding and enlightening.

Mr. Packard was an undergraduate at Canterbury University in New Zealand. With the exception of one year, he was a part-timer. His extra-curricular life is one to be emulated by our part-timers too, for not only was he S.C.M. President, but he was also for two years captain of the Cross Country Running Club, and of the University Tramping Club.

The fullness of his participation in University life was perhaps brought to fruition when in 1948, after having been a primary school teacher and a demonstrator on the academic staff at Canterbury University, he ultimately won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford to continue his studies in his sphere of special interest, physical geography, vegetation and land use.

He continued to study at University College, London, after which he rejoined the Canterbury University Staff. He is now lecturing at the A.N.U., besides carrying on his duties at the Hall of Residence.

Another aspect of his early University career which led to greater things was his interest in tramping and mountaineering. In 1950 he was a member of the second Himalayan Expedition allowed into Nepal. The expedition, which was led by Tilman, was sent with a view to climbing and conducting scientific surveys of the Annapurna Range.

The expedition lasted for six months. Unhappily, Mr. Packard was stricken with infantile paralysis and had to be carried for ten days before contact was made with English-speaking people. The aftermath of

the illness has apparently hampered his climbing ability.

The fullness of his experience in both academic and outside life makes him eminently suitable for his position as Warden.

The interviewer questioned him on such subjects as social problems, ethics, student-staff relationships, administrative policy at the Hall, and on the co-operation he is receiving from the residents.

The gist of the interview is reported below.

INTERVIEWER: "In general, the attitude of the staff towards the students as a mass is a trifle d'haut en bas. This may be due to the age at which students first attend University in Australia, or to other considerations. What is your method of assessing, and dealing with, students?"

MR. P.: "I believe that the individual approach to students applies. Each student is treated by me with consideration. Your right as a student is to question the professors."

INTERVIEWER: "It cannot however be denied that the teacher tends to form opinions based on the general student, which leads to his disregarding the maturity and general knowledge of the occasional unique student."

MR. P.: "The lecturer cannot presume to treat his student as other than a fully mature adult whose knowledge equals his own except in his own special sphere. In general the staff are fully cognizant of the necessity of good staff-student relationships. Furthermore, the size of many Universities answers your question to some extent. In Canberra the state of affairs is

considerably better than that at other Universities which I have attended, or at which I have lectured."

INTERVIEWER: "Have your residents proved co-operative?"

MR. P.: "Co-operation has been quite good, although troubles may occur."

INTERVIEWER: "What is the policy adopted at the Hall of Residence with regard to rules, etc.?"

MR. P.: "Many of the students resident here who have attended other Universities were astonished and pleased at the liberality apparent when they first came to the Hall. The liberality has not changed. However, the old adage 'Give an inch and they will take a mile' seems to apply to a greater or lesser extent, or may do so."

INTERVIEWER: "It has been suggested that provided the rules are not too flagrantly violated—if people are discreet—the Senior Common Room will tend to turn a blind eye."

MR. P.: "These regulations were made by the Administration. You may, however, quote me as saying that I intend the regulations to be kept. If, as some people have already shown, there are grievances, they should take them up with me or with the interim committee. For example, we are modifying the rule concerning the playing of musical instruments. A rule is made to be kept, and the 11.30 p.m. curfew on visitors of the other sex will be stringently enforced. If you have any complaints, you might come to me to



hear the other side."

INTERVIEWER: "Upon what basis do these rules rest?"

MR. P.: "This is, after all, a place for scholars older and younger and they must be allowed to work."

INTERVIEWER: "Do you actually have any legal control over the students?"

MR. P.: "It is more in the nature of a moral obligation. I stand more or less in loco parentis."

INTERVIEWER: "Suppose a student fulfilled all his technical obligations. He came and signed the book and said, 'I am going away for a few days to get drunk at the Civic Pub.' What would you do then?"

MR. P.: "I would invite him home for a few beers and try to help him over his problem. The regulations are not too bad here. I can decide whether a per-

INTERVIEWER: "This will depend to a certain extent on the personal idiosyncrasies of the students."

MR. P.: "The student must abide by the community rules or leave."

INTERVIEWER: "You have a certain problem in that residents of Narellan House, who are used to a less restricted life and who have formed emotional attachments, are not quite the same as students fresh from school who will not have experienced a truly free life."

MR. P.: "A good proportion of the Narellanites support the Hall's system of discipline."

INTERVIEWER: "To be perfectly frank Mr. Packard, I did not come to the Hall because I felt I would not fit the system."

MR. P.: "A recognition of your own particular make-up must be considered. I lived in a house with six others including two women — there were no emotional attachments and everything worked out rather well. I think every student should do it once he has experienced college life."

"This Hall is unusual in that it houses both sexes. This is however, in conformity with modern social trends and I think it is a good idea."

The interview then closed.

The Editor wishes to express his thanks to Mr. Packard for his frankness during the interview.

OASIS

"I don't believe in ethics." Father McKenna.

Overheard recently: "The male opinion around this University seems to be that women should be seen and not heard; the more seen and the less heard the better."

Street lights have at last been put up along University Avenue, much to the relief of the residents at the Hall. It is hoped that the Department of the Interior will continue its good work, and provide a footpath before rains make the route impassable again!

"The Miss University 1961 competition is only open to females." "Pelican."

Also of interest to the residents of the Hall is the rumour that University Avenue is to be blocked off at Nicholson Crescent, so that it serves only University buildings. Does anyone know anything factual on this subject?

Interesting sight last week — the tutor and half of his students taking a cat-nap during a tutorial.

"I hope this is not going to be a repetition of tomorrow."

Henry Satrapa.

A male resident of the Hall, it is said, saw a female climbing through the window of her room at dusk. Believing her to be a close acquaintance, he raced up and accoster her — was surprised and somewhat embarrassed, to put it mildly, when the said damsel turned around. She was a member of the staff.

"It's getting late early these days, isn't it?"

Bob Reece.

SOCIAL COLUMN

The scene: Canberra Railway Station. The purpose of the crowd: to say farewell to Paul Tansuvan. Paul was a student here for four years, and apart from his studies he was a leading light in the (now dormant) table tennis and badminton clubs. Having now gained his B.Com., Paul is returning home to Thailand to put his degree to use. Goodbye Paul, and good luck.

STUDENT NEWS

Notre Dame University College in Cotabato City officially opened its new buildings in October. The University, which was begun 11 years ago, is now launching a 10 to 20 year development programme and is focusing its attention on the chief academic needs of Cotabato: medicine, nursing and chemical engineering. Complete courses are already given in Law, Commerce, Liberal Arts, Education. Three priests and 75 laymen compose the staff. There are at present 1,400 students, 1,000 of whom are Catholic. When completed Notre Dame University will accept 3,000 students. (Pax Romana, Fribourg.)

Some Students Participate

Canberra Day

Due to the efforts of two-thirds of the Rags Committee and a small band of non-apatetic students, the Uni's contribution to the Canberra Day Procession was quite memorable. The floats depicted:

1. Frivolous Cabinet Session with constantly changing decisions on Credit Squeeze.

2. Newspaper covered gentlemen reclining on a park bench as a comment on Canberra's housing situation.

3. John Rayner, the bearded non-union barber, skillfully removing hair from Mr. Paul Pentony's head, with the aid of hedge clippers and basin. At least the charge was only five shillings at this clip joint.

4. A disorganised Congolese Army rabble that provided the public with a change of Prime Minister every five minutes. Miss Maurer capably acted the part of Mrs. Lumumba and demanded support from the public.

In hot pursuit of the Congolese Army was a jeep filled with personnel from the U.N. Vaccillation Squad, Secretary Dag at the helm.

A sinister attempt to throw cold water on the cold war was made by Russians on a 1927 fire engine. Unfortunately the passengers on the fire engine looked more like children on a Sunday school picnic. They even had the affront to kidnap Mr. Kasavubu and attempted to drown him.

A Canberra one-man bus service was also functioning although the Canberra public can be understood if they considered this to be a railway porter with human luggage.

Important!

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Nominations are hereby called for the following positions to be filled at the General Elections of the Association to be held on the 17th, 18th and 19th April, 1961:

1. PRESIDENT of the Students' Association.
2. THREE representatives on the Students' Representative Council for the Faculty of Arts.
3. THREE representatives on the Students' Representative Council for the Faculty of Economics.
4. TWO representatives on the Students' Representative Council for the Faculty of Law.
5. TWO representatives on the Students' Representative Council for the Faculty of Science.
6. ONE non faculty representative on the Students' Representative Council.

Nominations must be signed by two people entitled to vote for the candidate. Thus only Arts students are entitled to vote for the Arts representatives although even students not doing Arts may stand for the position of Arts member on the Council. The nomination must contain a written statement that the nominee is willing to accept office if elected.

Any further information may be obtained from the returning officer. Nominations close on the 10th April and must be handed to the returning officer or posted to reach him on or before that date.

C. P. MACKERRAS
(Returning Officer.)

LAWYERS HOLD THEIR A.G.M.

On the evening of 15th of March, the Common Room was filled by approximately forty members of the legal fraternity, who attended the Annual General Meeting of the Law Society.

Before discussing the principal business of the meeting a vote of thanks should be expressed to the outgoing President Walter Palmer and his committee for their excellent work during 1960.

The main item on the agenda was the election of office-bearers for 1961.

These were elected as follows:— President, Peter Ryan; Vice-President, Lance Murray; Secretary, Sue Schreiner; Treasurer, Ed Simon; Committee Members, Jenny Johnson, Dick Vincy and Tony Whitlam.

This was the first general meeting since the amalgamation of the C.U.C. with A.N.U. and thus it was essential to change the name of the Society during the proceedings in order to establish conformity. After some discussion the new name decided on was "The Australian National University Law Society."

Another historical and highly commendable decision was made when it was resolved to send two law students to the Inter-University Moot Competition which will be held in Adelaide during the May holidays.

Some pathetic and superfluous squabbling ensued when a motion was moved that the Prime Minister

should be removed from the Patronage and be replaced by a more active Patron. However, in the end, the motion was lost and in lieu it was decided to approach Sir Kenneth Bailey to become Co-Patron. Whether this decision is constitutional is a moot point.

Some discussion took place whether the lending system for obsolete books should be re-implemented in the law library. The general census of opinion seems to be against this move.

It was stimulating and promising to see so many freshers at this meeting. It is noteworthy that one of them was elected as a Committee member. There seems to be no doubt that the new President, who has shown sedulity and proficiency in leading other organising bodies, will be able to make this society furthermore active and important. We wish him and his committee luck!

—FEE TAIL—

EDITORIAL COLUMN

THE NEED FOR THINKING

The average student is not really a member of a university. He lives in a microcosm composed of his special sphere of study, the everyday necessities of eating and drinking, and his sundry extra-curricular activities. Few of our students see themselves in their real context—in a microcosm which is the civilization of Mankind.

Hence their lack of sympathy for those ideas, ideals, and people about which they too often say, "What can I do about it all?" All too frequently we can only think about what are referred to as "world problems." How many stop to think that this is doing "something about it"? If we do not think about the Eichmann affair and the pending trial, about Lumumba and the Congo, about the implications of atomic warfare and the threat of Communism, we are not contributing to the progression of our civilization towards ultimate perfection.

A university student is in the vanguard of society but his most important impact comes from his ideas—how can society progress if he allows his social consciousness to stagnate.

The value of his university career lies not in sending food parcels to U.N.R.A. but by his impressing his ideas upon the society in which he lives.

Let him think logically about atomic warfare. According to a recent symposium and congress of American scientists the alternative to co-existence is death. According to the Christian ethic, Communism is evil. If, however, the alternative to Communism is total annihilation, can the Christians say with justification that we must all die for our principles.

Man is part of a scheme of divine creation; as he is here, somehow I cannot believe that he is intended to commit total genocidal suicide for his principles. Or perhaps new principles are created by the play of new forces. The Charge of the Light Brigade roughly a hundred years ago was commendable, but is it now?

It is for the university student to show the lead to the world on such problems as this and this entails thinking about problems which do not now actually concern him personally.

IS A RIVERINA UNIVERSITY NEEDED?

At the present moment this old chestnut is being subjected not just to the usual roasting but to a veritable auto-da-fe in Riverina newspapers and municipal council chambers.

Self-important aldermen and retired graziers vie with each other in parochial excesses; momentous letters are written to "The Editor" and harangues are inflicted through the courtesy of the ABC regional stations; local members are petitioned and accordingly ask questions. The support for intellectual endeavour seems to be reaching the high water mark in the provinces. But in this deluge of letters, statements, and the activities of an impossible number of leagues, societies, guilds and councils the ideal of university is transformed to a high class tourist attraction. "University" appears in a single sentence with "Soil Research Station," "Baby Health Centre" and "Old People's Rest Home."

The support for a university is heartwarming but the motives demand a little more attention than they usually receive. To give one example, the Riverina University idea is, to some extent, a particularly rank red herring imported by Country Party political middlemen.

Let's be realistic! Despite the fact that the A.N.U. is geographically the ideal centre for Riverina students, the aldermen of Wagga, West Wyalong and Wantabadgery rise to the heights of rhetoric and smash life-long friendships in the inter-urban battle for a University site.

At the present moment a compromise has almost succeeded. The suggestion is that every major Riverina town should house part of the University. I can see it now—Geophysics at Griffith and Languages at Leeton!

And all because of the prejudices that are nursed against our National Capital. The state could not possibly aid and populate a Commonwealth Tertiary institution so most Riverina students flock off to Melbourne, Sydney and Armidale.

To the minds of the intellectual leaders in the Riverina, the A.N.U. remains an academic White Elephant.

R. H. W. Reece.

S.A.C. Elections . . . Apathy . . . Bureaucracy . . . and . . .

BREAKDOWN IN OUR S.R.C. GOVERNMENT

Freshers will soon be faced with the exciting prospects of taking part in electing the new S.R.C. This event which usually arouses considerable interest is quickly forgotten and the students' representative body is left in peace to conduct the students' affairs.

Soon we hear cries of student apathy being belched from the mouths of disappointed members of the S.R.C. following the collapse of student functions.

Presidents and Secretaries cry that students won't participate in S.R.C. functions and that apathy is abounding.

With the establishment of the Hall of Residence it would seem that this is a good year to examine and if possible rectify the cause of this apathy.

Having lived with the problem for over two years, I think that the reason is inside rather than outside the S.R.C. There has been a breakdown in student government. I am willing to wager that less than one in twelve students could name all the members of the present S.R.C.

The internal organisation of the S.R.C. has led to poor and non-representative government and a lack of faith has been the siren of student apathy.

S.R.C. meetings have become occasions where prior decisions are consented to. Policy is being decided outside rather than inside S.R.C. meetings.

The S.R.C. has become no more than a bureaucratic agency, acting only where its negative mediocre nucleus directs it.

The last S.R.C. election was a tragedy. Student apathy, cowardice or ignorance led to their being mere shams. Several candidates were elected unopposed and potential presidents were defeated because apathetic and cowardly students fear a strong S.R.C.

Nobody could deny that Peter Ryan has acted to the best of his ability as president. But few thinking people would disagree with me if I should say that as a personality he is negative and mediocre.

A good president must be able to project his personality to those with whom he works. He should be able to make people gather round him and work. Persons who we know of this calibre are few—but surely John Carroll, Ron Frazer or Gwilym Davies can claim to belong to that category.

By
GEORGE MARTIN

In the present S.R.C., the Secretary and Treasurer also lack any ability to lead the S.R.C. on any strong or definite policy. The few keen members of the S.R.C. are outvoted by the preponderance of a negative and conservative group of wowsers, women and idealists.

We'd like your photo George but somebody has stolen it!!

'ONE UP' IS REVUE NAME

The other night I went to a Revue rehearsal. There were about fifty people there rehearsing either the Fall of the Tower of Babel, or the Breaking of the Old Guard at Waterloo.

I decided to ask the man at the top. This was easy because forty seconds later he was the man at the bottom, because the musical director was sitting on him shouting "Bassoons and pipe organs or nothing," and the dress designer was taking the opportunity to murmur "Gold lame is only seven guineas a yard, and it'll last the eight nights easily."

The other top man was supervising the players themselves. "Sounds like disorganised confusion, doesn't it?" he smiled, a mischievous dimple appearing on his chin. He quickly wiped it off on his tie, with a muttered apology, and went on, "Just listen and you'll find that it's organised confusion."

Sure enough I found one group was muttering "Rhubarb," a second "Custard" and a third was interjecting "Soda water bottle." Reassured by this evidence of industry and Attic wit I resumed my questioning.

"Title? Well, we're calling it One Up for reasons too numerous to mention. We thought of calling it True Love because it never does run smooth, but we realised we couldn't have any four letter words in the show."

"All four letter words are being carefully screened by a committee consisting of

the directors, the Primate (a monkey we know, not the cleric of the same name) and H. G. Fowler. If it is common English usage we pass it, provided it is not too common."

He went on, "There's the usual display of unfettered genius—we only fetter him when it's full moon, and various organisations and institutions will find themselves represented in a glass darkly before they know where they are. If they ever do," he added darkly into his glass.

"We have a large cast, many of them freshers, and the show is running twice as long as sometimes, namely eight nights, opening on the 28th April, and running on the 29th, and the Thursday, Friday, Saturday for two weeks following those dates. In the Hall."

"Are you John Carroll, or John Cummings?" I asked. His eyes took on a rather furtive, cunning cast.

The furtive, cunning cast were trying to slip out for a drink, but a snarl of command and a few lashes with a cat which happened to be passing brought them eagerly back to fawn on our hands. "Aha" was all he would say.

So all I can say of the directors is that they are both small, dark and surly. And watch out for one of them. He pinches.

Penelope Willoughby-Dent.

Misguided Student Values

Last A.G.M. of the Students' Association, Mr. Barry Schick, one-time Association President, denied that student apathy was a current problem. He asserted that many sporting clubs were active, and that this proved his point.

This prompts the reflection that the present generation of students is much inclined to view student activity as being fully embodied in one set only, of activities, made up mainly of the non-intellectual or vigorous. It is felt that once these pastimes are set in motion, the place becomes a University. One could detail sport, sex, indiscriminate jazz-loving, drinking, and so on. Genuine amorality, cynicism, Henry James-loving, lesbianism and so on are out. Students' rags are in.

It may be that this time of cold war is, in reality, the most placid ever. Not only are there few fervently-held beliefs but there is a careless disregard of the examination of the beliefs of others and of the nature of men. Those activities that are thought to be the criterion of university life are exactly those which are shared with the rest of the community.

Certainly it is no bad thing for there to be some realisation that a University man is part of his community. But it is a shame when all is trappings, and skid talk values are exploited for what they are worth, while concern with self examination is treated as the temptation of St. Anthony.

We haven't a city nearby whose urban existence speaks both the trite and the profound to us, and this much of the tension of being forced to think is just not generated. There is no great art and none of the springs of wisdom. But there are some great scholars and some great men who must inspire the search for the fountains of knowledge, whether gently willingly or thunderously bellowing.

Which leads again to the point, that where the emphasis is one way, it must be redressed. Where the

emphasis is on a juvenile and narcissistic culture the values of enquiry and criticism must be fostered. Where a rather flat hedonism is observed, sensualism and passion must speak.

Where politics is a matter of methods, policy-ends must be continually re-examined. Where student activities are grounded in communal bon-hommie, eccentricity must re-appear.

Where time is passed coarsely, celebration must arise, for "Ah! as the heart grows older, it will come to such sights colder."

Theatre Group Born

On Tuesday, March 21st, the University Dramatic Society held its last meeting, and the University Theatre Group came into existence.

After opening the meeting, President Harrison put forward two changes in the constitution. The first was the abovementioned change in the name of the Society, and the second was proposed affiliation with the S.R.C.

Both changes were passed, and so the election of officers followed. All the new office-bearers were elected unopposed and the new committee is as follows:

President, Stella Ford; Vice-President, Marguerite Le Mesurier; Secretary, Anne Kingston; Treasurer, Peter Roley.

Ex-President Malcolm Harrison would not re-stand for President as he is going to work this year, and also because he is tired of running a society of which he is the only interested member.

He put in a lot of work last year, as the leader of a changing committee, as the organiser and leading actor in the second term play, and as the producer of the 1960 Eisteddfod play. His work is appreciated and it is to be hoped that he will remain an active member of the Theatre Group.

It is hoped that in this ever growing University, that there will be more than one person having the responsibility of running the Group, and that student interest will help the Group to flourish.

S. Ford,
President U.T.G.

The Hall

Having received a good working knowledge of Canberra hostel life last year, I still found the Hall of Residence a new and rather pleasing experience.

This may be attributed to the importance of tradition, the 100 per cent student population, or even to a preconceived notion on my own part that I was not going to enjoy life at the "Hall."

Another impressive fact is that its population is so cosmopolitan; Australians from Western Australia to Queensland, students from overseas, a New Zealand Warden—unity in diversity. Also, these people range from graduates to raw freshers, from the hell-for-leather types to the confirmed swots.

Such a diversified group leads to interesting experiences, such as a group of freshettes having their training runs for hockey up and down one of the corridors, and all night poker schools in the men's blocks.

And there was the incident of the male student who saw a female climbing through a lower-story window, and found, after challenging her, that she was a member of the Senior Common Room who had forgotten to take her key with her. The Black Swan blushed.

However, now that the term is progressing, there no longer seem to be parties every night, and the 11.30 p.m. rush from North Block is diminishing, the Hall of Residence shows promise of being a first-class place to live, love and study in. May that promise come to fruition.

John Maurer.

NEED FOR NEW UNIVERSITIES

A new university housing 8,000 students would be needed every two years if the future enrolments at Australian universities were to be met, Sir Leslie Martin said.

Sir Leslie, Chairman of the Australian Universities Commission, was addressing the convocation of the Melbourne University.

"The problem facing tertiary education in Australia today arises from a large increase in enrolment and a critical lack of experienced staff of quality," Sir Leslie said.

"The resources of most universities will be wholly committed by 1964. By 1966, 12 in every 1,000 of the population will be enrolled at a university," Sir Leslie said.

The initial capital investment for each institution needed would be £25m. to £30m.

Students' Representative Council Elections

April 17, 18 and 19

Revue Members and others!

There is a DEMONSTRATION of the art of STAGE MAKE-UP

on Wednesday, April 19th 8 p.m.

Common Room

Sponsored by the Theatre Group

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1933 RILEY 9
Twin carbs, recently overhauled. £90.
PETER SIMPSON
Room 313
Hall of Residence

Religious Dishonesty of Many Students

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Isiah: 1, 18.

In recent days, I have become aware of what is perhaps intellectual dishonesty on the part of some students, when the subject of religion is under discussion. I am speaking of Roman Catholics, or at least those Catholics who can talk coherently on the subject.

Before I drop the personal note, I want to make several things clear. I myself am not a Christian. I try to respect the reasonable opinions of others. I am not criticising any particular person or persons; rather, this is a challenge to whom it may concern to clarify his/her own approach to a central problem—the extent to which faith is subordinate to reason, or vice versa. I have addressed myself to the Catholic community of this university, chiefly because there is no articulate Protestant intellectual voice to be heard.

"Come, let us reason together . . ."

The case for the separateness of faith and reason, of divine "truth" and natural truth, was well stated by Father Shirres at the Symposium on religion in Orientation Week. He gave a good example of how faith can be an extension beyond the realm of provable fact when he mentioned the Trinity.

The tripartite Godhead cannot be explained: it in no way clashes with existing knowledge: it is an assumption or an assertion taken from the pages of scripture, and which constitutes a dogma of the Christian religion.

Doctrines

Any Christian worth his salt can immediately offer several other items of faith, components of Christian doctrine, which, similarly are beyond the strictures of natural truth. There is the doctrine of the Second Coming: the nature of salvation, and the process of sanctification; life after death, perhaps; heaven, hell, and purgatory.

Then there are those doctrines, the interplay of predestination and free-will being the most notable, which send one's head spinning after five minutes of sustained thinking.

Such beliefs are classified as "reasonable acts of faith." But they are reasonable only in so far as a basic assumption is valid: this assumption is the existence of the Christian God as the source of this divine "truth." His omnipotence, and His consistency (otherwise the concept of God becomes farcical).

The existence of God is, of course, too large a subject to deal with here. However, I prefer to believe that it is a superfluous and an unwarranted assumption. It is more reasonable, in my opinion, to say that there is no deity, than to assert that there is.

Thomist philosophy, I am told, can prove that there

is a God. But the dark paths of this proof, under the boughs of metaphysical abstractions have always been reported as too difficult to negotiate.

Despite the fact that the majority of Catholics I have talked to do not know the processes of this "proof," they unquestioningly accept it as gospel. It is reserved as an exercise of the mind for super-intellectuals. And even many of these do not find the promised certainty of knowledge because they just do not reason within the Thomist framework.

How unfortunate it is, that what would purport to be the most longed for, and the most important, "proof" in the history of mankind, should be quite so esoteric!

Dogmas

So far I have mentioned the Christian dogmas which, I maintain, are of the realm of divine "truth" rather than natural truth. But sometimes reason openly clashes with articles of faith, and here, most of all, I have been dismayed by the attitude of Catholic students.

The diligent search for natural truth, and the use of the intellect as a means of discovering more of the wonders of God in creation, is praised and encouraged by the Catholic Church, which has placed more emphasis on higher learning than any of the Protestant denominations.

However, when science or logic clearly opposes dogma, then loyalty to reason, apparently, becomes heretical. This is clear-cut in the case of the virgin birth. Logical explanations for the birth of the child out of wedlock provoke the expected hands-up-in-horror reaction. But soon, faithful, ethereal, metaphysical philosophy comes to the rescue, this time in the form of: just because a virgin birth hasn't occurred in the last 1900 years doesn't mean that it did not happen, and in this instance, natural truth, in the form of scientific law, was suspended, and divine truth became dominant.

In the first place, few non-Christian doctors would be pleased about the scientific logic of the former statement: and within the second statement is implied the fact that divine and natural truths are contradictory — rather a sorry affair, when God has two sets of truths, one occasionally cancelling out the other.

This pattern of logic is also the backdrop to the other biblical miracles — the raising from the dead, the curing of the deaf, blind, dumb, and other physical wrecks of humanity. Another ugly question also raises its head here. If the miracles are true reports, this means that God interferes in the affairs of the world: through the institution of prayer, God can be placated, reasoned with, and His power can be

brought to bear on a person's behalf.

But, we are told, men have free will, and they can pursue their own whims and make up their own minds on all questions: this, presumably, means that praying for other people is of no avail, and in fact, pernicious to the concept of free will.

This logical cul-de-sac is not accepted as a contradiction of doctrine, or a triumph of reason over faith. We are told that it is merely beyond the intellect of man to grasp how these irreconcilables can be reconciled. Where dogma and reason are not just complementary, but plainly conflict, some students, despite their avowed sincerity in their search for truth through reason, renounce the dictates of this reason and adhere to dogmatic pronouncements.

This discussion has assumed that miracles did happen. Personally, I prefer to believe that they did not. If I were to believe miracles, perhaps I would believe those surrounding the life of Mohammed, because he lived 600 years later, and less time has elapsed for distortions to creep in.

When Mohammed was a shepherd and a camel driver in the desert, he never suffered from the heat, because a little cloud always hung low to cast a shadow to protect him wherever he went during the day. At night, his eyes were like two searchlights, and when anything was dropped in the dark, he could bend down and pick it up as easily as if the sun had shone on the spot.

Not wanting to disrobe in the presence of men, since he was very modest, Mohammed called together two trees which were very far apart, and they formed a screen between him and his company.

To accept the even more extravagant Christian legends, it appears obvious, is to be even more gullible. It is no "reasonable act of faith." It is, in an important respect, a negation of reason and natural truth. It is accepting an unnecessary, and moreover, an unreasonable postulate.

The Christian religion has become ingrained in our social fibre, and gains financial and moral support from those who do not hold with much of the dogma. The Church can thus afford to be dogmatic.

"Come, let us reason together," it cries, like Isiah. But we must read the next two verses from Isiah to see what the alternatives of our opportunity to reason really are:

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land;

But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Isiah 1:19, 20.
DON QUIXOTE.

White Australia Bad?

Two young Australian girls who arrived in Singapore last week decried the White Australia Policy as being entirely unjustified.

They are Miss Glenda Felton, 21, and Miss Christine Dobbin, 19, of the University of Sydney, who came to Singapore to attend the 1st International Conference of South-East Asian Historians as observers.

Both of them are reading Arts in the University with History as their speciality.

Miss Glenda Felton said that she felt that there was absolutely no justification for such a policy, and added there were many groups of persons who were fighting against such a policy.

Miss Felton added that that the students in Australia themselves were not in favour of such a policy, especially after having met students from Asian countries.

Both Miss Felton and Miss Dobbin told the UNDERGRAD that they were impressed with the kindness of the students here.

—(Reprinted from THE MALAYAN UNDERGRAD)

An Original Short Story

"Day by Day"

They were both sprawled out under the tree and it was really very pleasant. The sun was shining, the birds . . . well, the usual routine.

"Do you love me," she said, "really love me."

"Of course I do," he replied, "honest and truly."

He turned the page and went on reading; actually when he got into it Plato wasn't so bad after all. There was a short silence and then she said, "What's the time?" "3.35." "Aren't we going to tea?" "In a moment. There'll be a rush right now."

There were two other groups, both idly discussing commonplaces among themselves, but she made no movement to join either.

Instead she went outside onto the verandah and stood for a while gazing at the sky, the shifting sun leaving the farther sky the deep blue which heralds the approach of dusk. Ambling slowly she made her way to the Library. She nodded her thanks to the nun, holding the door open for her and smiled somewhat distractedly at the girl behind the desk.

The clock registered 4.15—must be slow—and she wandered into the periodical room and sat down with the paper.

"Where's Peter?" a voice broke into her dreamings. "What . . . oh, he's at Philosophy. He'll be back at five. What's the time now?" "4.25." "Thanks."

For a few moments she sat looking straight ahead, then with sudden resolution she hurried to her bag, took out her notebook and pen, walked down to the 942's, selected a book and a chair and began reading furiously.

But the enthusiasm was short-lived and soon she went and checked the clock again. It registered 4.35 but she added five minutes—4.40. She returned to her book but the words made no impression on her and she sat there dreaming the slow minutes away.

By

Malcolm Harrison

Suddenly she started, thinking she might miss him and she flew down the corridor. The clock looked down at her—4.45—in other words 4.50. She picked up her bag and stood holding it, wondering if they would be coming back in the evening, but she could always carry it down again and so bag in hand she returned to the Common Room and waited expectantly for his arrival.

Soon he came, cigarette in hand, strolling nonchalantly through the door. His quick smile registered her presence. "Ready to go?" She smiled her acquiescence and rose to join him.

Hand in hand, silently they walked back to the Residence. "I love you," she said as they neared the buildings. "Thank you, you're sweet," and he quickly kissed her cheek. Looking up he exclaimed, "Ah, there's David. I've been after him all afternoon. See you at tea." And he left

her to walk the last few yards to her quarters on her own.

She lay there a few moments and then "You really love me very much?"

"Of course darling. Tea?" Together they strolled across the grass onto the verandah and into the Common Room. Having got tea he came and sat with her and continued reading. After a while he pushed his cup away, selected a cigarette and turned to the boy behind, "Match?" A hand came up with a cigarette—steadied and he lit his own from it. "Thanks." He returned to his book.

She sat there sipping her tea, taking little notice of anything save of the boy reading. Presently he stubbed out his cigarette, checked the time—nearing on four o'clock. "Must go," pushing back the chair. "Right . . ."—hesitation—"Love me?" "I love you. See you at five."

As he disappeared through the door she picked up the cups and returned them to the Buttery. Back in the Common Room she resigned herself to her chair and casually flipped through the pages of "Punch," occasionally looking at the students leaving for lectures, but more often at those coming in.

She looked at the clock—4.15—sighed and looked around the Common Room. MAL HARRISON.

Student News . . . From here and everywhere

PERTH

After a lapse of a year Prosh will rampage through the streets of Perth again in 1961. To get round objections by police and public Prosh will be held in a lunch-hour. Demands are also being made for an Aquatic Prosh on the river.

Negotiations have been going on for the best part of some time and have finally resulted in lectures being cancelled to allow for the preparation of floats. But for this Prosh could probably not have been held, as complaints about evening Proshes have been mounting over the years. It is a happy coincidence that students decided to give the proceeds of the Prosh collections to the two big name appeals, the Cpair of Commerce and the Empire Games, before making their application.

In addition a group of students are pressing for a Prosh on the river, which would give full scope to the towiness which must be suppressed in the streets. They think that the word "float" would really come to mean something when the crews had to float, in the face of interfaculty opposition, and suggest that this water Prosh continue until only one float remained.

CONGO

The Catholic University of Lovanium has opened its doors normally for the academic year 1960-61, with the full staff of professors, and around 400 students. The University can be considered as one of the most vital institutions in the Congo today, owing to the

tremendous lack of graduates in this country. The high educational level of the university is recognised by one and all, and it can compare with the best universities in Europe. This was stated by Mr. Thomas Kerstiens, Director General of Pax Romana, upon his return from a month's visit to the Catholic University of Leopoldville. (Pax Romana, Fribourg).

ENGLAND

The issue of censorship in the students press has recently arisen again in two universities. In London the editor of "Sennet" has resigned as a result of the decision of Presidents Council to require all matter concerning the students' union of the University of London (ULU) to be approved by a board of censors before publication. In Manchester the University has suspended the publication of all student publications until arrangements are made to ensure that they contain no undesirable matter. (Beaver, London.)

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland may disaffiliate from NZUSA the New Zealand National Union of Students in the very near future. The issue at stake has been a recurrent one over the last few years. Auckland pays 650 pounds to NZUSA, that is 2/7 per student — a considerable higher amount than any other University. Auckland feels that either the Universities that contribute most to NZUSA's upkeep should have the most say in running the body, or if voting is to be equal, payments should be equal too.

'Pnin' - Exquisite Nabokov Novel

Vladimir Nabokov is beginning to enjoy deserved popularity. A Penguin edition as unpretentious as Professor Tymojev Pnin himself has consigned this work to the shelves of the intellectual paperbacks.

Nabokov, like Josef Conrad, is something of a rare avis in English literature. Since 1940 he has been writing in English, and "Pnin" demonstrates a precision of expression and a lightness of touch which many English authors could well imitate. Kinsley Amis is the first of them that comes to mind—the comparison with "Lucky Jim" is obvious. After Nabokov's well-bred ease and discerning perspicuity, Amis seems a malicious schoolboy laying about him with a literary meataxe.

Waindell College, the temporary haven of emigre Pnin presents in contrast with overdrawn Professor Welch and his lunatic colleagues a galaxy of lightly sketched academics of an only too realistic nature. Clements, the vaguely sympathetic Dr. Hagen, and even the frustratingly normal Victor, come into being through brief and strategically diverse clues throughout the book.

"Lucky Jim" serves its purpose, but it is only too

easily categorised as "University satire." This element plays only a subordinate part in Nabokov's theme of the Russian intellectual emigre in the New World. One of the occupational hazards of the emigre is the Soviet documentary film—

"Kirgiz actors visited a sanatorium for coalminers among palm trees and staged there a spontaneous performance . . . In a mountain pasture somewhere in legendary Osssetia, a herdsman reported by portable radio to the local Republic's Ministry of Agriculture on the birth of a lamb

. . . a factory worker's family spent a quiet evening at home, all dressed up, in a 'palour' choked with ornamental plants, under a great parchment lampshade . . . The latest Zim passenger model started out with the factory worker's family and a few other people for a picnic in the country . . ."

Reviewed by R. Reece
Your copy is available at Cheshires

This is the most explicit satire in the book but Nabokov has wonderful sympathy for his characters. Even Dr. Eric Wind and the psychopathic Liza are not caricatures. Amis capitalises heavily on homours of situations, but Nabokov's humour is not obtrusive—one cannot go back to "Pnin" to re-read a chapter of graphically funny incidents. Professor Pnin's encounter with the Clements' washing machine, his adventures in the Library and his delightful dinner party are not exploited in the beefy Amis manner.

The nineteenth century Russian satirist Nikolai Gogol has had more influence on Nabokov than any other author. The exquisite "Pnin" belongs to the distinguished genre of "The Government Inspector" and "Dead Souls".

Pfogarty



I WAS DISILLUSIONED



THEY ALL SAID, NO-ONE MORE DISILLUSIONED



THEN I SAW HER



SHE WAS MUCH MORE DISILLUSIONED THAN I.



ANOTHER OF MY ILLUSIONS SHATTERED

Rugby Union

ALL UNIVERSITY TEAMS SHOWING GOOD FORM

The 1961 season has seen the advent of a bigger and better University's club into the A.C.T.R.U. trial matches.

To date we have played two trial matches; the first against Goulburn on 11th March and the other the following week against Northern Suburbs.

With the help of some "Imports," the already strong club side proved too much for both these clubs, and we were decisively victorious on both occasions.

Mei Bungey, Alan Ward, Ian James, Tim Clarke, Ian McDougall and Co. will again form the crux of the forward pack, but they will always have to be in top form to keep their positions against a large group of eager forwards from Reserve Grade.

The backline will this year be strong. Those of you who witnessed many of last year's matches would find this practically beyond the realms of comprehension. Individually the backs last year were good, but as a backline they weren't always the best.

This position has been remedied and we will look forward to the University backline doing their fair share of the work this season.

Players welcome

If there is any player who would care to play with us this year, all he has to do is show up at a training session and he will be sincerely welcomed.

Training times for this season will be as follows:

Monday, 5-6 p.m. at Forrestry Oval (transport provided from Uni.)

and Thursday, 7.30-9 p.m. at Northbourne Oval (under lights of course).

On 14th March the Annual General Meeting was held in the Junior Common

Room and was well attended.

President Kel McGrath opened the meeting and congratulated the University's club on the previous season's performances.

Secretary Tom McDermott read the secretary's report and also read the treasurer's report in the absence of Mr. Guy Smith.

New Executive

The newly elected executive for 1961 is:

President, Mr. Kel McGrath; seven Vice-presidents (including Mr. Drummond, Mr. Alex Mildren, Prof. Burton); Secretary, Mr. Ian McDougall; Treasurer, Mr. Alan Ward; and some committee members

Following on his great job last year as Rugby Union reporter, Dave Funnell has returned to write his reports on this game.

whose names I can't remember.

Inter-Varsity in Perth


If you are desirous of attending this carnival, you are asked to let the secretary know. Work is still going on and if you need the money let Alan Ward know, so that he can get you work.

As some of you realise the Club has a newly designed jumper.

It is either white with blue stripes, or blue with white stripes—I can't work out which. However, it looks good.

Shorts are navy blue, and socks are blue and white also.

D. W. Funnell.

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NOTICE OF A.G.M.

AGENDA:

1. Minutes.
2. Correspondence.
3. President's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Election of 1961-62 office-bearers.

B. McLaughlin, Hon. Sec.

LAW SOCIETY Secretary's Report

I wish here to pay a warm tribute to our President, Walter Palmer, who displayed great proficiency in organisation and preserved rapport between committee members.

1. Constitution

During our term of office we were the first society to pass through at a general meeting a constitution in conformity with the Clubs and Societies Regulations of the Students' Association. Affiliation with the S.R.C. was effected, with minor misunderstandings as to the annual grant.
2. Legal Functions

In second term a criminal "mock" trial was held. Four most educational and entertaining moots were held. We are grateful to the lecturers who arranged and adjudicated them.

During Orientation Week a function was arranged to help freshers understand the nature and purpose of legal studies and to introduce them to lecturers and senior students. The speakers were Professors Ford and Richardson and Mr. Tarlo.
3. Social Functions

The Third Annual Law Ball was held at the Ainslie-Rex. Those present included Sir Kenneth and Lady Bailey (Guests of Honour) and Magistrates

Keane and Button and many other legal eagles.

A farewell party was held for Professor Fleming at University House.

4. Law Library

In view of the large number of part-time students the opening of the library was secured from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays. A general misuse of the library was eliminated.

- 5. General

The departure of Professor Fleming to Berkeley University in the U.S.A. was felt as a great loss to the Society.

Steps were taken to acquire a Law Society Room from the authorities. The matter was deferred until more space becomes available.

The Committee is grateful to all the lecturers and to Miss Campbell-Smith for their generous help. Special thanks go to Mrs. Henry for her innumerable services. In conclusion we wish the incoming Committee all the best for a successful and beneficial term of office.

AS "WORONI" REPORTER SAW IT — LAW SOCIETY A.G.M. A FIASCO

Wednesday, March 15th, saw the most disorganised, incompetent and pathetic A.G.M. any Society could possibly hold. After the election of office-bearers for 1961, the well attended meeting gave way to complete chaos.

Members completely ignorant of standing orders (an indispensable item if the meeting is to achieve anything) bellowed forth their views regardless of the proper procedure.

We even had the pitiful spectacle of one member taking personal offence when someone had the good sense to insist on a point of order, or as the aggrieved victim called it, "petty technicality."

Rules to ensure the effective functioning of a General Meeting are not petty technicalities. Legal students, of all people, should be aware of the necessity of some sort of order where large numbers of people are concerned.

The meeting carried a motion that certain individuals should be ejected. Although we personally disagree with the motion, it had constitutional authority and should have been put into effect by the President.

We came to elect not a dictator, who could do as he pleased contrary to the general consensus of opinion, but a servile being, an instrument to ply and bend with the wishes of the majority.

A person who so willingly jumps at the President's office, ought to realise that he occupies his position due to a mandate from the members of the society, who have entrusted him to execute their will.

We sincerely hope that by the time of the next G.M., members of the society will at least have some idea of procedural matters, or if they have not, will have the good sense to shut up.

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Men's Hockey

Teams prepare for the season

The A.G.M. of the Hockey Club was held on Tuesday, 9th March. Following the reading of the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer the election of office-bearers for the 1961 season took place.

Sam Lake takes over as Secretary, while Jim McKay is to fill the position of Treasurer. The Vice-Presidents are Peter Simpson and Bill Kitchen.

After some wrangling over who to elect patron (R.G.M. was suggested), the question was left to the incoming secretary to resolve.

The committee members are to be Ron Wier and Jim McKay and Peter Bailey as President-Elect.

The meeting ended when the more verbose members ran out of points to raise. However, it was decided to examine the question of equipping the A grade team with new shirts, more fully.

The season promises to be a good one, judging by the number of new recruits. Players have been training on Mondays and Thursdays. There have also been games on Saturdays either amongst ourselves or against other clubs. The A grade team has a nucleus of six of last season's players and is beginning to settle down well.

The Reserve side looks like being the strongest Reserve side ever fielded by Uni.

The competition begins shortly after Easter, following the Kenna Cup. Older club members are looking forward to winning (?) a great many games this season.

Members of the

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB

are advised that there will be a practice every Sunday morning at 9.30 a.m. at Turner.

This practice is for ALL players.

STAFF

is still needed for

WORONI

Articles also required

CONTACT WORONI OFFICE

MARBLES CHALLENGE MATCH

Science vs. Law

WATCH FOR IT . . . SOON

DEBATE

Tuesday, 11th April

1.00 in the Common Room

"CONVENTION IS HYPOCRISY"

K. Campbell		R. Arthur
I. Martin	v.	H. Cartwright
F. Lawrence		T. Whitlam

Chairman: G. Martin

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